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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/701,271 | RUELLE, JEAN-LOUIS | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Padmavathi v. Baskar | 1645 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 3/1/05.

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 31, 38-39, 60-62 and 65 have been renumbered as 1-7 respectively.

3. The drawings filed on 11/3/03 are accepted by the Examiner.

4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 6/24/03
- 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
- 5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- 7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- 8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- 9. Other _____.

LYNETTE R. F. SMITH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600
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DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's after amendment filed on 3/1/05 is acknowledged.

Status of Claims

2. Claims 36-37, 68-69 and 71 have been canceled.

Claims 31, 38-39, 60-62 and 65 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejection - 35 USC 102 withdrawn

3. In view of arguments of record, the rejection claims 31, 39, 60-62 and 65 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Martin et al 1997 (J.Ex.Med. Volume 185, Number 7, April 7, 1997 1173-1184) is withdrawn as the prior art fails to disclose an isolated recombinant polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence SEQ.ID.NO: 2, from *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B strain, H44/76.

4. The instant claims define a novel recombinant polypeptide comprising the polypeptide SEQ.ID.NO: 2 from *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B strain, H44/76. This polypeptide has been shown to bind to sera obtained from patients infected with various clinical isolates and is useful for diagnostic assays for detecting the infection caused by various clinical strains of *Neisseria meningitidis*.

5. Claims 31, 38-39, 60-62 and 65 are allowed and have been renumbered as 1-7 respectively.

Conclusion

6. Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600, AU 1645 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be transmitted via the PTO Fax Center, which receives transmissions 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. The transmission of such papers by facsimile

Art Unit: 1645

must conform to the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30, November 15, 1989.

The RightFax number is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PMR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PMR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PMR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Padma Baskar Ph.D., whose telephone number is ((571) 272-0853. A message may be left on the Examiner's voice mail system. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 6.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. except First Friday of each bi-week. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynette Smith can be reached on (571) 272-0864. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.



Padma Baskar Ph.D.

In the Claims:

Claims 1-30 (Cancelled)

~~31~~ (Currently Amended): An isolated, recombinant polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2,4 or 6.

Claims 32-37 (Cancelled)

~~2~~ ~~38~~ (Previously Presented): An isolated polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

~~3~~ ~~39~~: (Currently Amended): A fusion protein comprising the isolated, recombinant polypeptide of Claim ~~31~~.

Claims 40-59 (Cancelled)

~~4~~ 60: (Currently Amended): An immunogenic composition comprising the isolated, recombinant polypeptide of Claim ~~31~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

~~5~~ ~~61~~: (Previously Presented): An immunogenic composition comprising the polypeptide of Claim ~~38~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

~~6~~ ~~62~~: (Currently Amended): The immunogenic composition of Claim ~~60~~, wherein the composition comprises at least one other *Neisseria meningitidis* antigen in addition to the isolated, recombinant polypeptide.

Claims 63-64 (Cancelled)

~~7~~ 65: (Currently Amended): A method for inducing an immune response in a mammal comprising administration of the isolated, recombinant polypeptide of Claim ~~31~~.

Claims 66-71 (Cancelled)